

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 1

6th Grade Computers & IB Technology Class

Mrs. Tina Weiss

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Or by phone 262-664-6150



Keyboarding Unit

Our first unit in 6th Grade Computers and Technology Class was on Keyboarding and how keyboarding skills benefit today's youth. Your student gained keyboarding skills through daily warm-ups, review of terms (our Wall of Knowledge activity), and lessons in the Microtype program.

The students then applied these skills in writing paragraphs and turning them into word clouds (Wordles). They also were evaluated either by a peer student or by me in their proper use of keyboarding skills.

Finally, their final project was creating an Animoto movie about how they see themselves benefiting from keyboarding in their own life. Ask your student about their Animoto project (www.animoto.com)

Your Virtual Viking is gaining technology skills.

Thank you for sharing your student with me this trimester. I have enjoyed getting to know them and their wonderful, creative ideas. Aside from learning touch keyboarding, our class has spent time discussing what it means to Viking-Up in the computer lab. Please ask your student what the following look like in the computer lab compared to other areas of the school:

- Be Ready - Be Respectful - Be Responsible

Save the Date!

Conferences:
Thursday, March
3rd

Evening
conferences –
please stop in.

New Trimester
Monday, March 7th
Your student will
move on from my
class to another
elective

4th Quarter
March 28th
4th Quarter Begins
– your student is
almost done with
6th Grade





Our New Unit: Digital Citizenship

Unit Question: What are the characteristics of a good digital citizen?

Our students are digital natives; that is, being born after 1980 means that they never knew a world without the Internet. Students are now part of a participatory culture where they create and consume media 24/7. We will be exploring the impact that digital media has on their lives, including both positive aspects, as well as negative aspects.



Common Sense Media Curriculum

We will utilize curriculum and lessons from Common Sense Media during this unit, including the Digital Life lessons and the Privacy and Digital Footprint lessons.

I encourage you to connect with your student about what they are learning in this unit and how it applies to your family and community. Attached is a Parent Tip Sheet from Common Sense Media, as well as a Media Agreement that I encourage you and your student to read and discuss. Please also visit the website:

<http://commonsensemedia.org>

Grading in this unit:



Your student's grade for this unit will be determined on the following:

- ◆ Participation in class and group discussions
- ◆ Completion of handouts and worksheets
- ◆ Documentation of the IB Technology Design Cycle
- ◆ Creation of a Glog: an interactive poster